

Sent: 4/8/2019 10:08:26 PM

On April 10 Dr. Katie Hailer, Department of Chemistry & Geochemistry, Montana Tech will present a talk/presentation entitled Assessing Human Metal Accumulations in an Urban Superfund Site at 12:00 pm MST. Dr. Hailer collected meconium data on 15 newborns in Butte MT and 17 in South Carolina, and tested a

Collaboration between mcdermott and hailer who have both published articles critical of the Butte clean-up to date. 17 babies in SC 15 in Butte, tested for a full suit metals, most elevations seen not identified as COC's. No difference in lead between the populations.

All the data shows is that there is a difference between the meconium in the Butte newborns vs the SC newborn

Absolutely does not make any inferences to possible health effect

Virtually impossible to determine health effect from levels in baby poop. Little to no national data on meconium and metal levels nationally

It is certainly an interesting finding and support Dr. Hailer in her investigation, offering what ever assistance we can. We are supportive of a more thorough scientific investigation into this possible difference. At this time the data are too limited to establish if this difference actually exists, but believe that it is a worthwhile endeavor.

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